Montana Office of Public Instruction

Denise Juneau, State Superintendent

opi.mt.gov

JUMP Newsletter

Welcome to *JUMP,* the OPI online assessment newsletter. *JUMP* is published several times during the year to announce important assessment and data events. It provides up-to-date information necessary for the administration of statewide assessments and the accompanying data collections.

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MontCAS
Montana Comprehensive Assessment System

English Language Proficiency Assessment Update

September 2015: The Science CRT and CRT-Alternative Reports, grades 4, 8, and 10, Interpretive Guide, Individual Student Reports, and Cumulative Folder Labels will be shipped to System Test Coordinators. Each system and school should have a plan to ensure that student reports will be sent to parents/guardians within two weeks of receipt. Released items and answer keys are at the following link:

http://opi.mt.gov/Curriculum/MontCAS/index.html#gpm1_5

(choose Practice on the page)

Important Dates

Test Window Dates	Assessment/Event	Grades
Dec. 2, 2015 to Jan. 27, 2016	English Language Proficiency	K-12
Jan. 11-12, 2016	Assessment Conference, Hilton Garden Inn, Missoula	All
Jan. 21-22, 2016	Assessment Conference, Crowne Plaza, Billings	All
Feb. 17, 2016 to Mar. 24. 2016	Science CRT—Alt	4, 8, 10
Mar. 03, 2016 to Mar. 24, 2016	Science CRT	4, 8, 10
TBA: Mar. to May 2016	Smarter ELA and Math	3—8 and 11
Tentative: Mar. 30 to May 16, 2016	NCSC—Alternative ELA and Math	3—8 and 11
Apr. 19, 2016	ACT Plus Writing: Initial Test Date	11*
Apr. 19 to May 3, 2016	ACT Plus Writing: Accommodations Window	11*
May 3, 2016	ACT Plus Writing: Makeup Test	11*

*Public Schools

New This Year: The WIDA English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELP), *ACCESS for ELLs*—grades 1-12, is moving to an online format this year; however, the Alternate and Kindergarten *ACCESS for ELLs* will remain paper based assessments.

IMPORTANT DATES: Below are important dates including the December-January administration window.

Activity	Start Date	End Date
WIDA Assessment Management System (WIDA AMS) and training modules released	09/04/2015	09/04/2015
Deadline to have LEP status updated in AIM	10/16/2015	10/16/2015
Online test setup	11/20/2015	01/27/2016
Districts receive test materials (on or before)	11/20/2015	11/20/2015
Test Window	12/02/2015	01/27/2016
Additional Test Materials Window	11/23/2015	01/20/2016
Districts Pack Completed Test Material	12/04/2016	02/03/2016
Districts Ship Completed Test Material to DRC	12/04/2016	02/03/2016
All Test Material Received at DRC	02/10/2016	02/10/2016
Districts Receive Reports - Printed and Online (On or Before)	04/06/2016	04/06/2016

LEARN MORE:
- The following webinar is a good place to start.
  What's New: ACCESS for ELLs 2.0
- The home page includes links for all other resources and a basic description of the assessment. Most resources are available without a login.
  https://www.wida.us/assessment/ACCESS20.aspx
- New headset specifications for the speaking component of the *ACCESS for ELLs* require the capability to record student responses to prompts. WIDA has provided a useful document to help districts in making headset purchase decisions.
  https://www.wida.us/assessment/ACCESS%202.0/documents/Headset-specifications.pdf
- FAQs:
  https://www.wida.us/assessment/access20-faqs.aspx
- This one page document contains links to important test preparation resources:
  http://www.opi.mt.gov/pdf/Assessment/ELP/ACCESS_ELLs20_ImplementResources.pdf
- Try out these interactive items to learn about the look and feel of the new *ACCESS for ELLs* 2.0 online Assessment:
  Online Sample Items
  Online Sample Items Instructions
- The following recorded presentation provides a review of OPI's recommendations for identification of English Language Learners (ELLs).
  http://www.opi.mt.gov/streamer/Assessment/ELP/ELL_IdentificationReview.mp4
- The preparation resources section lists available resources with release dates for components that are in development. These lists can be differentiated by role (Test Coordinator, Test Administrator, and Technology Coordinator).
  https://www.wida.us/assessment/access20-prep.aspx
- WIDA has created role specific checklists that will guide test preparation. These should be disseminated by the System Test Coordinator to each educator who will be part of the administration of the *ACCESS for ELLs* 2.0 assessment.
  https://www.wida.us/assessment/ACCESS%202.0/documents/Test%20Coordinator%20Checklist.pdf
  https://www.wida.us/assessment/ACCESS%202.0/documents/Test%20Administrator%20Checklist.pdf
  https://www.wida.us/assessment/ACCESS%202.0/documents/Technology%20Coord%20Checklist.pdf